

The Bethel Courier.

A Weekly Family Newspaper, Neutral in Politics, devoted to Literature, Agriculture, Education, the Mechanic Arts, and the News of the Day.

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The Bethel Courier.

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J. ALLEN SMITH, Editor.
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March 25, 1861.

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BETHEL HOUSE

BETHEL HILL, ME.

THE SUBSCRIBER would inform

the public that he has recently
purchased this well-known house, and
propose to accommodate the public here,
with nice and board and lodgings at rea-
sonable rates.

The above House has within the last three
months been thoroughly renovated and re-
fitted, and furnished from cellar to attic with
new furniture, and is a most desirable home
for travellers for business or pleasure.
A carriage in constant attendance at the
door for the convenience of passengers.
W. F. LOVEJOY.

HISTORY OF BETHEL.

BY DR. N. T. TRUE.
CHAPTER LXXXIX.
GODDARD'S ACADEMY.

The success of the High School in 1830 encouraged the town to obtain a charter from the Legislature for an Academy. Accordingly an act was passed to incorporate the Bethel Academy, which was approved by the Governor, Hon. R. P. Dunlap, Jan. 27, 1836. The names enrolled in the act of incorporation were as follows:—John Grover, Moses Mason, Wm. Frye, Charles Frost, Jedediah Burbank, John Hastings, James Walker, Levi Williams, Roseline Brown, Valentine Little, Geo. W. Chapman, Timothy Carter, Thomas Frost, Timothy Hastings, and Robert A. Chapman.

The first meeting of the Board under the charter was held May 2, 1836, at which time a code of by-laws was adopted, which has been in force with but trifling changes to the present time. Dr. Timothy Carter was the first President, Dr. John Grover, Vice-President, and Wm. Frye, Sec. Arrangements were made to build an Academy at this meeting. The building was erected during the summer of 1836, with the chapel in the centre, and the Academy year commenced Sept. 1, 1836.

The first Preceptor was Isaac Randall, who continued two years, and was succeeded by Wm. R. Chapman who taught one term in the spring of 1838. He was followed by Joseph Hill, who taught in the fall of the same year. Chas. M. Blake taught in 1839, Calvin Chapman 1840, Moses Soule in 1841-2-3, Moses B. Bartlett, Almerthy Grover in 1842, David R. Hastings and Talleyrand Grover in 1843, Joseph Richard in 1846, Wm. C. Hurd in 1847, N. T. True in 1848, to the present time.

With the exception of Mr. Soule, no one had been so long in teaching a profession, consequently the school was irregular in its patronage. About the year 1842 the Rev. Daniel Gould, of Rumford, made a request to the Academy, on condition of which was that it be named after him. The Trustees petitioned the Legislature the next winter, and it was changed to Gould's Academy in Bethel. The Trustees subsequently realized about eight hundred dollars from the estate. This has been made a perpetual fund, the interest of which shall go towards paying the Preceptor his services. In 1850 the Trustees obtained from the Legislature a half township of land which they sold the next year for the sum of twenty-five hundred dollars, and the funds of the Academy were, and are now, mostly invested in the bonds of the Atlantic & St. Lawrence Railroad. Since 1848 the patronage of the Academy has been probably more uniform than that of any other Academy in the State. The school is kept the year round. The largest number of students at any one time was in the spring of 1848, when there were one hundred and forty-nine. About one thousand different pupils have attended since the present incumbent has been in office. There is now a cabinet of about 1300 mineralogical and Geological specimens mostly neatly arranged in cases, and a library of 500 volumes belonging to the United Brothers Society, which is a flourishing literary society organized in 1848, that holds weekly meetings during the year. The apparatus is increasing yearly and will soon be valuable, while maps, charts, globes and books of reference are within reach of the pupil. In 1852 the building was remodeled and otherwise improved. Though too small for the actual wants of the school, it is well planned and convenient. Its location is in one of the pleasantest spots in the State, overlooking the valley of the Androscoggin and in sight of the many mountain tops in the distance, and in a pleasant and thriving village.

In 1858 a Tree Society was formed for the purpose of ornamenting the grounds, and the students have manifested much zeal for this purpose. There is need of a few loads of manure from the Trustees to promote the growth of those already planted.

The Institution has done its full share in educating the youth of our State since its incorporation and has sent forth many of both sexes who are exerting a salutary influence in society.

The following gentlemen are Trustees at the present time:
President—Hon. Moses Mason.
Vice-President—Gilman Chapman.
Treasurer—Dr. John Grover.
Secretary—Richard A. Frye.
James Walker, Esq., O'Neil W. Robinson, Esq., Eben Clough, Esq., Rev. John B. Whitebridge, Rev. A. G. Gaines, Albert L. Burbank, Esq., Gideon A. Hastings, Esq.
Principal—N. T. True, M. D.
Assistant—Miss Olive C. Walker.

Rev. Wellington Newell removed to Bethel in 1856, and graduated at the Bridgewater Normal School.

Arrested.

A writer in the Agriculturalist relates a case where a Scotch Pine and a Linden tree grew up together, but the former had the greatest aversion to the latter. We have noticed this fact with other trees for many years and have been endeavoring to collect such facts as would, if possible, develop some law in the case.

In 1830 we planted a rock-maple and the white-barked poplar, (*Populus grandidentata*) within a few feet of each other. Both grew with the greatest vigor, but we soon found that the maple refused to throw out branches towards the poplar. The poplar has long since been removed, but the maple is destitute of limbs on that side, though it is now a large tree.

We have a notable instance at the present time in our front yard between a hickory and an elm which have stood side by side for twenty-seven years. The hickory spreads its branches in every direction while the elm has leaned its trunk away from it some twenty-five degrees. No suitor could be more effectually scorned. A similar case may be seen in the village in the front yard of Hon. Moses Mason, between an elm and a Lombardy poplar. The latter runs up as prim as its nature, while the elm has labored hard to get away from its disagreeable neighbor. Attention to all the facts in the case would bring to light, no doubt, some curious law in vegetable physiology, which would be of service in planting and rearing trees.

"The Old Man of the Mountain."

A deceiver "play upon words" does not often reach the public than the following, which is contributed to the *Kennebec Echo* Magazine:

"I send you a picture of the Old Man of the Mountain. He has got rather a hard face, but that is because his pliz is made of stone; and if he is not a handsome as some people, yet few have such enduring features and such an unflinching complexion. This Old Man carries his head very high in consequence of his position, which is very natural. He is up in the morning early, but I am sorry to say he takes a little 'mountain dew' every evening. He is very 'set in his ways,' and never turns to the right or left for anybody or anything; but in winter he sometimes turns very pale in consequence of snow storms which prevail at that season of the year. This Old Man lives on Franzonia Mountain, and is very much 'looked up to' not only by all the people in that neighborhood, but by those who live at a distance, who travel a great way to have a look at him; but very few look him full in the face, and they therefore get a very one-sided view of him. He never shaves, though he has a very stumpy beard; and though he has few hairs on the top of his head, where the wool ought to grow, still each hair is a tree-mendous one. They are sometimes torn out by their roots by the lightning, and they sometimes leave themselves out altogether, in which case they keep very shabby about it; but they are very 'green' if they do. The Old Man is stone blind; and although he has got the 'rocks,' he is very poor; but he has a fine prospect before him. He never goes to sleep, though he is rocked every night. And this is the story of the Old Man of the Mountain. I have at least given you the principal features."

Domestic Recipes.

WATER PROOF CLOTH.—Take 1 pound of common brown soap, cut it up into small pieces and dissolve it in hot water. In another vessel dissolve 1 pound of alum in hot water, the quantity of which (in both cases) should be sufficient to enable the operator to freely handle 20 yards of cotton cloth. Now immerse the cloth in the first liquid, and open out the folds so as to let every part receive its share of the soap. This will take about 15 minutes handling. The cloth is now lifted and squeezed to press out some of the water; then it is plunged under the hot alum liquor and handled for about a quarter of an hour, after which it is dried. When dried in a temperature of 150 degrees Fahrenheit, the cloth is superior in quality to that dried in the atmosphere. The alum and soap from an artificial leather—an invaluable compound in the uses of the cloth.

Another process is as follows:—Take 1 pound of alum and half a pound of the sulphate of copper (blue vitriol) and dissolve them in 50 gallons of boiling water and boil the cloth in this liquid for half an hour; then take it out and dry in a warm room. Cloth thus treated will repel rain, which will run from its surface like water from a duck's back, and yet perspiration will pass freely through its pores. This is a good method for treating caps of wooden cloth, and it has been used for this purpose in the French army. Oil-leath and India-rubber water-proof clothes soon render the persons very foolish, because they prevent the escape of carbonic acid gas from the pores of the body.

PUR CURET.—Take one pint of butter-milk, one large teaspoon of lard, one teaspoonful of salt, one teaspoonful of saleratus, and flour enough to form a dough. Mix the lard and flour by rubbing them together, then add the other ingredients, knead well, and it is ready to roll out.—Tender and good.

FOR CLEANING SILK.—Take equal quantities of alcohol—whisky will do—soft soap made of wood ashes, and molasses. Mix and rub with a cloth; afterwards rinse in clear water once or twice, and dry it or wrap in cloth till ready to iron.

PLAIN FAMILY IRISH STEW.—Take 2 pounds of neck of mutton, divide into 10 pieces, and place them in a pan. Cut 8 large potatoes and 4 onions into slices, and season the whole to suit. Cover over with water, and cook over a slow fire in an oven for two hours. Then stir up well and serve in deep dishes. More water will give more broth, if required.

BED ROOM CARPET.—Miss Hale in her new Recipe Book gives the following instructions of interest to housekeepers, hotels, &c:

"Sew together strips of cotton cloth of the size of the room, and tack the edges to the door. Then paper the cloth, as you would the sides of the room, with any sort of room paper. After being well dried, give it two coats of varnish, and your carpet is finished."

Non-Constructor Boats.

At the last meeting of the French Academy of sciences, Dr. Jules Cloquet produced a pair of boats made of the tanned skin of a non-constructor. This material is remarkably strong and supple; the scales have preserved their natural lubrication and color, after the process of tanning, and the inside of the skin displays the marks of the scales in alternate relief and depression. Dr. Cloquet observed that it would be desirable to make farther attempt to introduce the skins of the inferior vertebrata into trade, seeing that, as to thickness and durability, they decidedly offer greater advantages than those of the superior classes.

In Rockville, a brick chimney, seventy feet high, was moved last week six or eight rods by James King, engineer. After arriving at the place of destination, it was turned partially around and raised to a stone foundation fourteen feet from the ground. The chimney belonged to the New England Company.

Never spank your children with a hand-saw, or box their ears with a hatchet. It is apt to affect their brains.

Small Bed-Chambers.

There is reason to believe that more cases of dangerous and fatal disease are gradually engendered annually by the habit of sleeping in small, unventilated rooms, than have occurred from a cholera atmosphere during any year since it made its appearance in this country. Very many persons sleep in eight by ten rooms, that is, in rooms the length and breadth of which multiplied together and this multiplied again by ten, for the height of the chamber, would make just eight cubic feet, while the cubic space for each bed, according to the English apportionment for hospitals, is twenty-one hundred feet. But more, in order to "give the air of a room the highest degree of freshness," the French hospitals contract for a complete renewal of the air of a room every hour, while the English assert that double the amount or over four thousand feet an hour, is required. Four thousand feet of air every hour! and yet there are multitudes in the city of New York, who sleep with closed doors and windows, in rooms which do not contain a thousand cubic feet of space, and that thousand feet is lost all night—at least eight hours—except such scanty supplies as may be obtained of any fresh air that may insinuate itself through little crevices by door or window, not an eighth of an inch in thickness. But when it is known, that in many cases, a man and wife and infant sleep habitually in thousand and ten rooms, it is no marvel that multitudes perish prematurely in cities; no wonder that infant children wilt away like flowers without water, and that five thousand of them are to die in the city of New York alone, during the hundred days which shall include the fifteenth of July, 1861! Another fact is suggestive; that among among the fifty thousand persons who sleep nightly in the lodging-houses of London, expressly arranged on the improved principles of space and ventilation already referred to, it has been proved that not one single case of fever has been engendered in two years. Let every intelligent reader improve the teachings of this article without an hour's delay. *Hall's Journal of Health.*

Every Man his own Insurance.

The following suggestions to the housekeepers, merchants, and those erecting new buildings, may not be valueless. Keep matches in metal boxes, and out of the reach of children. Wax matches are particularly dangerous, and should be kept out of the way of rats and mice. Fill fluid and camphine lamps only by daylight, and never near a fire or light. Do not deposit coal or wood ashes in wooden vessels, and be sure chimneys are extinguished before deposited.

Never take a light or ashes under the staircase. Never take a light to examine a gas meter. Be careful never to place gas or any other light near curtains. Never take a light into a closet. Place shades over gas lights in show windows and do not crowd goods too near them. No smoking should be allowed in ware-houses and barns. Where furnaces are used, the principal register should always be fastened open. Build chimneys on the earth.

The plan of using shingles in the bottoms of shoes originated about thirteen years ago, the first being cut in New Hampshire; and the use of paper and straw board began about the same time. To give some idea of the extent of this branch of the business the past year, five or six acres of heavy pine timber have been used for wood filling, nearly all by the manufacturers of Natic, and the adjoining towns, in the sales of brogans.

Salt Lake is probably the saltiest body of water on the globe. Three barrels of this water are said to yield a barrel of salt. The water is of a light green color for about ten or twenty rods, and then dark blue. No fish can live in it, no frogs abide in it, and but a few birds are seen dipping in it.

When a man dies, people generally inquire, what property has he left behind him? The angel will ask, what good deeds has he sent before him?

Facts for Poor Farmers.

Those farmers who have most difficulty to make both ends meet always plow most and keep most stock. Now, there was taken the true plan to keep themselves always poor, because their crops and stock are always poor, and bring little." So writes John Johnston in a letter to the Secretary of our State Society; and he thus illustrates his statement: "It is good profit to raise three hundred bushels of wheat from ten acres, but when it takes thirty acres to raise that amount it is at a loss. It is with cattle and sheep; you will see the thinking farmer making four-year old steers worth from \$60 to \$80 each, and his neighbor's at the same age not worth over \$25 to \$30. His advice to the latter is, 'If his land is exhausted he should plow no more than he can thoroughly manure. Seed with clover and grass and let it rest, and that field will not only pay well for tillage, but it will furnish manure (if rightly managed) to make another field of the same size rich; do not run it with grain until again exhausted, or the latter end of that land will be worse than the first.'—Country Genl.

Keeping the Tools in Order.

When we were young, we spent some weeks at Cousin Thrifty's. He had a habit which we make a note of—one which all farmers ought to possess. Every stormy day—stormy days were frequent and formidable that spring—he examined some of his implements of husbandry, to be sure that all of them were in good condition for use. Did an ox-yoke need repairing, by saw, shave and steam, the piece of oak was taught to bend without breaking, and a bow, smooth and regularly curved, was fitted for Bright's neck, in the place of the imperfect one. Had the rakes lost their teeth? Farmer Thrifty, though not professionally a dentist, put in new ones—strong if not handsome. Scythes, augers, chains, all the agricultural apparatus, must be reviewed and put in the best possible condition. We admired this habit, and remarked, "You are very particular, cousin." "Everything in order and in place, is my governing maxim," he replied. "This saves time and makes money." The observance of it has saved me many tons of hay, and many half-days' work. This rule is as valuable to mechanics and to housekeepers as to farmers. Do you not feel it so, mothers? Timely attention to trifles insures success.—*Life Illustrated.*

An Honest Groat.

I am sick of politics. I am sick of torchlight fizzes. I am sick of the Prim-rose. I am sick of men who never talk sense to women. I am sick of gloomy Placards, and wordy, idealistic sermons and narrow creeds. I am sick of lawless Sabatarians, and female infidels and free lovers. I am sick of unhealthy, diseased books, full of mystification and transcendental bosh. I am sick of "chaste ribbons" and "ravishing hair." I am sick, in an age that produced a Bronte and a Browning, of the prate of woe who assert that every woman should be a perfect house-keeper, and fail to add, that every man should be a perfect carpenter. I am as sick of women, self-styled "literary," who think a word of genius to despise every-day household duties. I am sick of school for the manufacture of bent spines. I am sick of parents, the cofins of whose children are already being made, asking teachers to "add another branch" to the already suicidal pile of lessons. I am sick of over-worked, ill-paid female operatives, for I never had (or to biliousness, for I feel as if I were just made, or to long arrears of unpaid bills, because I pay as I go. No, no—as the Episcopals have it, "all this I do steadfastly believe." There—now I feel better.—*Boston's Ledger.*

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